



### **What to Expect on the GED® Tests (2002 Series)**

The GED Tests (2002 series) measure knowledge in five different areas: Language Arts, Writing; Social Studies; Science; Language Arts, Reading; and Mathematics. An important feature of the GED Tests is an essay that documents your ability to write and communicate effectively.

The GED Tests usually require some preparation because they measure the skills and knowledge taught to a graduating high school senior. In fact, the passing standard/scores for the GED Tests are based on the estimated passing rate of graduating high school seniors. In spring 2001, the tests were administered to a sample group of graduating high school seniors and approximately 60 percent were estimated to be able to pass the tests on their first try. Therefore, to pass the GED Tests, you must perform better than 40 percent of those seniors.

Test Area	Number of Questions	Time Limit
<u>Language Arts, Writing, Part I</u>	50	75 minutes
<u>Language Arts, Writing, Part II</u>	1 essay	45 minutes
<u>Social Studies</u>	50	70 minutes
<u>Science</u>	50	80 minutes
<u>Language Arts, Reading</u>	40	65 minutes
<u>Mathematics</u>	50	90 minutes

## **The Content Area GED Tests**

### **I. Language Arts -Writing Skills**

This test consists of two parts.

1. Part One is a multiple-choice section that measures the ability to edit 50 questions in the objective part of the test using the editing skills of correction, revision and construction shift. The content areas measured are sentence structure, usage, and mechanics. The examinee has 75 minutes to complete this section.
2. Part Two requires writing an essay on an assigned topic and measures the ability of the examinee to compose a well-written response to that topic. This section measures skills at the cognitive level of synthesis, as the examinees are required to produce ideas rather than comprehend or analyze ideas. The examinee is allowed 45 minutes to complete Part Two.

The entire Language Arts – Writing Skills test must be completed in 120 minutes.

### **II. Social Studies**

The GED Social Studies Test is organized by historical period and measures the ability to use higher order thinking skills in understanding fundamental social studies concepts. Social studies test items are drawn from the following content areas:

- US and World History (40%);
- Economics (20%);
- Civics (25%); and
- Geography (15%).

Visual text (cartoons, photos, timelines, graphs, and charts) comprises 60% of the test. Written text which includes practical documents and key historical documents make up 40% of the test. There are 50 questions to be completed in 70 minutes.

### **III. Science**

The subject matter for the GED Science Test is drawn from the life sciences (biology) and the physical sciences (earth science, chemistry and physics). The test items specifically measure higher order thinking skills included in fundamental and scientific understandings of:

- life science (45%);
- earth and space science (20%); and
- physical science (35%).

Visual text comprises 70% of the test and written text the remaining 30% of the test. There are a total of 50 questions to be completed in 80 minutes.

### **IV. Language Arts - Reading**

This GED Language Arts - Reading Test measures the examinee's ability to comprehend, apply and analyze literary selections. The content areas include Literary Text – drama, poetry and fiction (75%) and Non-fiction Text (25%). There are 40 questions to be completed in 65 minutes.

### **V. Mathematics**

The GED Mathematics Test is presented in two booklets, which measure skills in number sense and operations (20-30%), data, statistics and probability (20-30%), geometry and measurement (20-30%) and algebra functions and patterns (20-30%).

1. Part I permits the use of a scientific calculator (Casio fx-260) which is provided at the test site.
2. Part II does not allow the use of a calculator.

Each part is equally weighted, so a candidate must successfully complete both parts of the test to receive a score. Also, the Mathematics Test has format questions other than multiple choice where examinees have to bubble in correct answers. The Mathematics test has a total of 50 questions — 25 in Part I and 25 in Part II — to be completed in 90 minutes.

**Visit the GED Testing Service website at:**  
[www.gedtestingservice.com](http://www.gedtestingservice.com) **for sample questions.**

## **Preparing for the GED Test**

For information on how to prepare for the GED Test, you may contact an adult education resource center in your area and staff members will schedule you for the Official Practice Test. When you receive your results, you will be told what areas you need to study for **or** be scheduled to take the Official GED Test.

## **Practice Makes Perfect**

Although the GED Tests may look a little intimidating at first, there is no shame in admitting you need to do some extra studying. Many preparation tools are available to help you in your quest for a GED credential. See our list of GED Test Centers for more information.

**You can also practice with sample test questions provided by GED Testing Service. Please visit [www.gedtestingservice.com](http://www.gedtestingservice.com) for more information.**

## **How are the results of the GED Test Reported?**

Results on each of the five tests are given as “standard scores” ranging from 200 to 800 “percentile ranks” ranging from 1 to 99. These scores compare to the high school seniors who took the tests.

## **What scores are needed to pass the GED Test?**

To pass the GED Tests, you need a minimum of 410 on each of the five tests **AND** an average score of 450 (2,250 total points).

You will receive your scores in the mail about three weeks after you have taken the GED Tests.

If you pass the GED Tests, you will receive a RI Senior High School Equivalency Diploma, suitable for framing, along with your scores. If you do not pass, you may call your GED Testing Center and ask to test again; however, you may only test three times in a calendar year, and there will be a charge for the retest.

## **Adult Education and GED Test Centers**

The following is a listing of GED Testing and Preparation Centers in Rhode Island with the names of their directors and phone numbers. Most of these centers have GED preparation classes and administer the GED Tests, unless indicated differently. The GED is offered in \*Spanish at one of our Testing Centers (see below).

<b>Center Name and Contact Information</b>	<b>Services Offered</b>
<b>Aquidneck Island Adult Learning Center</b> 740 West Main Road Middletown, RI 02842 Director: Stanley Brown Phone: 401- 847-7171 <b>Web Site: <a href="http://www.aialc.com">www.aialc.com</a></b>	GED Preparation and GED Testing
<b>Mount Hope High School Bristol, Rhode Island</b> Administered by RIRAL Contact: Cidalia DaSilva Phone: 401- 762-3841 <b>Web Site: <a href="http://www.riral.org">www.riral.org</a></b>	GED Preparation and GED Testing
<b>Community College of Rhode Island-Lincoln</b> Flanagan Campus Lincoln, RI 02865 Director: Jamie Nash Phone: 401- 333-7070 <b>Web Site: <a href="http://www.ccri.edu">www.ccri.edu</a></b>	GED Preparation and GED Testing

<b>Community College of Rhode Island-Providence</b> Providence Campus One Hilton Street Providence, RI 02907 Director: Sharon Miles Phone: 401- 455-6019 <b>Web Site: <a href="http://www.ccri.edu">www.ccri.edu</a></b>	GED Preparation and GED Testing GED Test Offered in English and *Spanish Language
<b>Cranston Alternate Education Programs</b> 4 Sharpe Drive Cranston, RI 02920 Director: Gayle Dzekevich Phone: 401- 270-8166 <b>Web Site: <a href="http://aep.cpsed.net">aep.cpsed.net</a></b>	GED Preparation and GED Testing
<b>Education Exchange</b> Lily Pads, Building C 33 North Road Peace Dale, RI 02879 Director: Peggy Benz Phone: 401 783-0293 <b>Web Site: <a href="http://www.EdExRI.org">www.EdExRI.org</a></b>	GED Preparation and GED Testing
<b>Providence</b> RI Department of Elementary & Secondary Education 255 Westminster Street Providence, RI 02903 GED Administrator: Philip Less Phone: 401- 222-8478 <b>Web Site: <a href="http://www.ride.ri.gov">www.ride.ri.gov</a></b>	Special Testing Accommodations Only

<b>Woonsocket GED Testing Center/RIRAL</b> 191 Social Street Suite 11, 3 <sup>rd</sup> Floor Woonsocket, RI 02895 Contact: Cidalia DaSilva Phone: 401- 762-3841 <b>Web Site: <a href="http://www.riral.org">www.riral.org</a></b>	<b>GED Preparation and GED Testing</b>
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## Computer Based GED® Testing Information

Starting in 2012 the 2002 GED® Test will be available to be delivered **by computer**. The exact timing of when the computer based GED® exam will be available in Rhode Island is to be determined. The leaders of the GED® program in Rhode Island will work closely with GED Testing Service to determine the appropriate date. During the transition to computer based testing in 2012 and 2013 paper based testing will continue to be utilized.

The computer-based test that will be available is the 2002 GED®. It has the same five content areas as the paper and pencil test. The test will still be multiple choice, and include an essay, and the test-takers will still have the opportunity to navigate back and forth to change any answers before submitting the test on the computer.

If you plan on taking the current GED® test, or have begun testing but haven't completed or passed the current test, you will need to

complete the current test by **\*November 1, 2013**. Scores earned on the current test **cannot** be combined with scores from the new test.

When the next-generation GED® test is launched on **January 1, 2014**, it will be delivered through computer-based testing **ONLY**. The content in the new assessment will be aligned with the Common Core State Standards and other prevailing state standards. For more information please visit the GED Testing Service website at: [www.gedtestingservice.com](http://www.gedtestingservice.com)

\*subject to change

Questions?  
Call 401-222-8948